

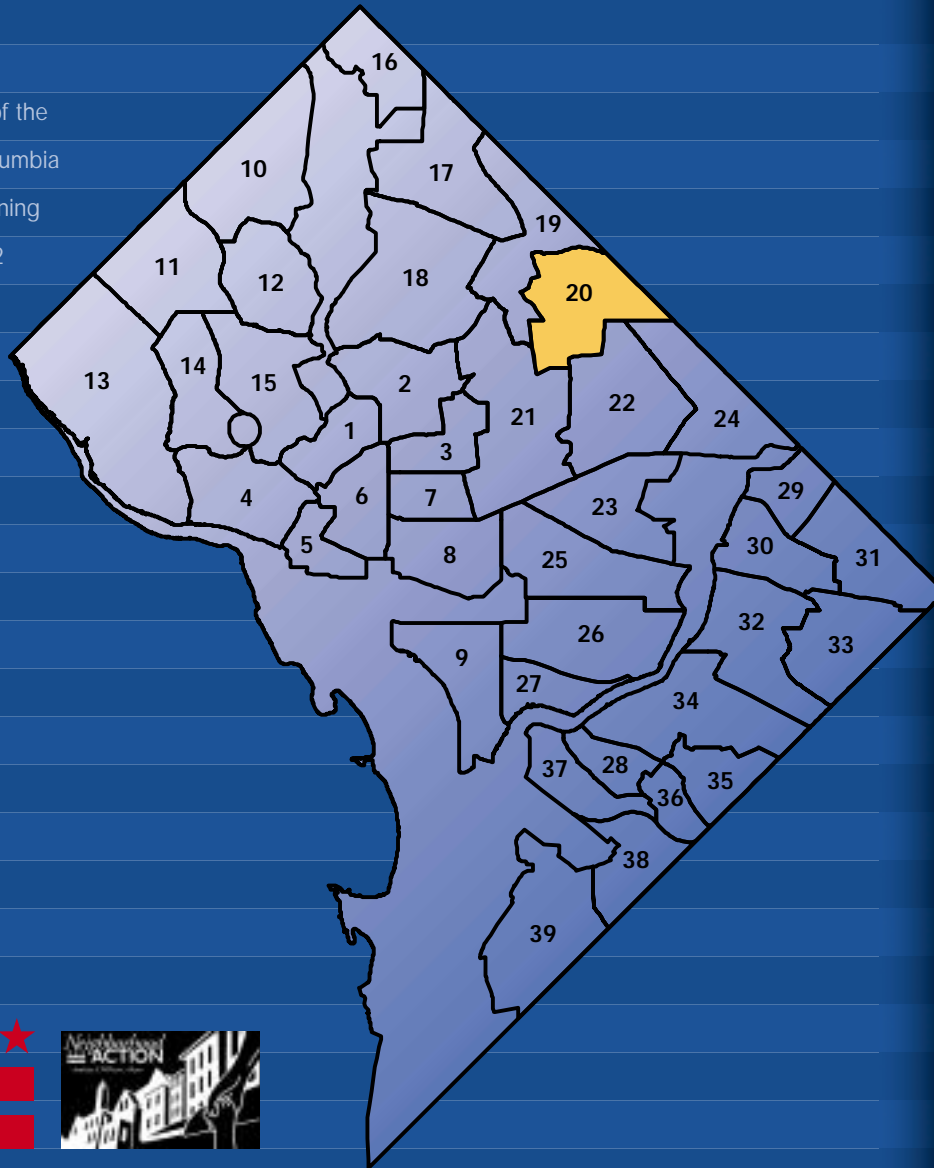
Neighborhood Cluster

20

District of Columbia Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

Prepared by

Government of the
District of Columbia
Office of Planning
Summer 2002



Michigan Park
North Michigan Park
University Heights



Acknowledgments

*The following people and groups
deserve special recognition for the
time they dedicated to developing
this plan for Cluster 20:*

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 5A, 5B,
and 5C

Cluster 20 Neighborhood Steering Committee

Lamond-Riggs Civic Association

Metropolis View Civic Association

Michigan Park Civic Association

North Michigan Park Civic Association

Operation W.H.E.N. (We Help Every Neighbor)

Queens Chapel Civic Association

Residents of Michigan Park, North Michigan
Park, and University Heights

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Letter From the Mayor



Dear Resident,

I am very proud to present the Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) for your Neighborhood Cluster. I personally want to congratulate all the citizens, the citizen and civic associations, the faith community, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, the businesses, and others that helped shape this plan.

I have personally reviewed these plans and am struck by the tremendous amount of work, thought, and commitment that went into their preparation. I value these SNAPs as a way to communicate directly with you, the residents and stakeholders of this marvelous city.

What began at the city-wide level with the first and second Citizen Summits in 1999 and 2001 has been expanded at the neighborhood level through the Neighborhood Planning, Neighborhood Service, and Neighborhood Outreach efforts—all part of the overall Neighborhood *Action* program. Through this triad, I have heard your concerns and priorities directly and have taken measures to respond.

This Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan is not just words on paper. Every agency in my administration has reviewed these plans to see how they might contribute to advancing the priorities and objectives you outlined here. As you know, this was a tough budget year. I instructed agencies to preserve their commitments to addressing your priorities, as they assessed how and where to trim their budgets. What's more, additional funding was provided to specifically accomplish a number of important neighborhood priorities articulated through the SNAPs across the city. This approach includes funding to install an additional 600 litter cans across the city; hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward; add another staff person under the Clean City Administrator, who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness; hire additional Historic Preservation staff to review projects in historic areas; and more. While not every priority was met, such changes signal tangible evidence of my belief that the business of government starts with the business of the people.

This SNAP document is a first of its kind. It is the first time a major city has coordinated a plan with every neighborhood in the city in a single year. It is the first product of many that will provide citizens with a record of how this government will directly respond to your priorities.

I am excited about this SNAP document and about what it signals for the future of our neighborhoods and our city. I look forward to working with you, my agencies, and other stakeholders to implement the many significant priorities you have identified here. Congratulations, and now the work begins.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Williams
Mayor

Dear Resident,

Enclosed is your Neighborhood Cluster's Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP). I want to personally thank all who contributed to developing this plan and congratulate them for their hard work. Many in your neighborhood devoted considerable time identifying strategies to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. This effort has helped us—the District government—better partner with you to make concrete improvements in our communities.

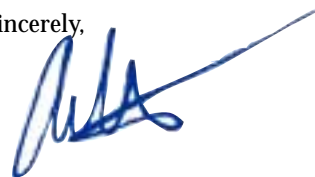
Your SNAP is a new kind of "plan for action" because it will not simply sit on a shelf. It is a document that lists key commitments by agencies and includes a timeline for implementation. It is a document whereby the commitments will be tracked by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood *Action* to ensure that they are followed through to completion. It is an action plan and a foundation of our city's budget.

With the same level of deep commitment in developing this plan, I urge you—neighborhood groups, the faith community, businesses, nonprofits, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others—to help implement the remaining actions. While I know many of you have been active in your neighborhoods for years, implementing specific actions in this plan will help unite government and citizen efforts through its goal of addressing specific priorities identified by your neighbors.

Our work with you in your neighborhoods has just begun! Your Neighborhood Planner, Deborah Crain, who helped develop this SNAP, will continue to work with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) as it develops a traffic study for Ward 5 and to assist the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in identifying additional community partners to provide space for recreation programs. She will also continue to provide technical assistance as needed in Cluster 20, among other work.

I look forward to our continued work with you in your Neighborhood Cluster. Thank you and congratulations once again for all your hard work and dedication in developing this SNAP.

Sincerely,



Andrew A. Altman
Director, Office of Planning

Letter From the Director



Neighborhood Action

Three years ago, Mayor Williams's administration developed a new framework for how the District government would work together with citizens and other partners to make good decisions and to improve our city. This framework was the start of *Neighborhood Action*. The mission of *Neighborhood Action* is to empower citizens to improve their communities by mobilizing and coordinating the resources of government, businesses, nonprofits, the faith community, neighborhood leaders, and the citizens themselves. *Neighborhood Action* has held four Citizen Summits: one in November 1999, a follow-up in January 2000, one in October 2001, and another in December 2001. There were also two Youth Summits to hear from our younger residents. At those public forums, citizens shared their priorities for the city, which helped redefine our District government's priorities at the city-wide level.

It was also realized, however, that there was much work to be done at the neighborhood level. As part of

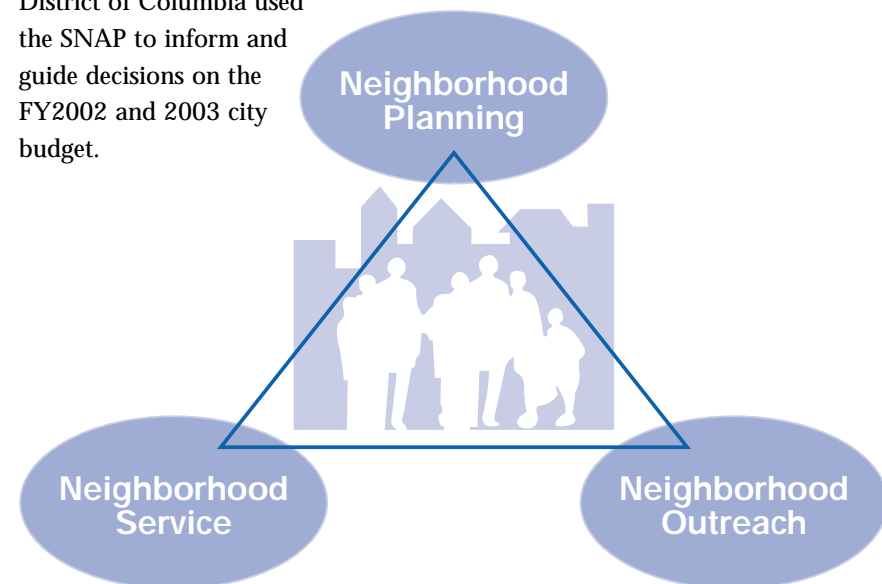
Neighborhood Action, the *Neighborhood Action Triangle* was created—three neighborhood initiatives aimed to identify and then solve neighborhood-specific issues. They are the *Neighborhood Service Initiative*, the *Neighborhood Outreach Program*, and the *Neighborhood Planning Initiative*. **Neighborhood Service** addresses recurring service delivery problems that require the coordinated involvement of more than one agency. **Neighborhood Outreach** holds public meetings, town halls, “coffee with the Mayor,” and other meetings to ensure that this administration stays connected to neighborhood issues. **Neighborhood Planning** has been working with citizens to identify top priority issues and to develop Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans (SNAPs) for each of the 39 Neighborhood Clusters in the city.

Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

This document is the SNAP for your Neighborhood Cluster. Citizens, citizen groups, businesses, the faith community, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others helped

develop this plan with the *Neighborhood Planning Initiative* located in the DC Office of Planning (OP).

The SNAP is part of *Neighborhood Action*, which is Mayor Williams's initiative to reengage citizens in the governance of their city and to establish a vision, priorities, and action for your Neighborhood Cluster. For the first time in the District, the SNAP provides residents a process to articulate and begin addressing many of the neighborhoods' most pressing challenges. The government of the District of Columbia used the SNAP to inform and guide decisions on the FY2002 and 2003 city budget.



Introduction

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Unlike the long-range goals of the Comprehensive Plan, the SNAP identifies near-term goals (i.e., goals for a 2-year period). Through a series of community workshops and task force meetings, community stakeholders identified the priority areas of the Cluster 20 SNAP: public safety, recreation and parks, and schools. Those three priorities and the actions recommended to address them reinforce several community concerns identified in the Ward 5 plan. Progress on each action committed to by a District agency will be tracked through annual status reports by the Office of Neighborhood Action.

Although the SNAP is an independent planning document not tied to the Comprehensive Plan, it could inform residents about how the Comprehensive Plan is updated in the future. Currently, the Mayor and Council are appointing a Comprehensive Planning Task Force representing a broad cross-section of stakeholders to work with the Office of Planning as it undertakes a review of the current plan and planning process.

The Comprehensive Plan

Throughout the SNAP process, residents asked, “How do Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans relate to the Comprehensive Plan?” While both documents outline a vision for neighborhoods and include concrete and identifiable goals for your community, there are differences in how they are used by District agencies and what the immediacy is of their effect on your neighborhood.

The *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital* is a long-range (20 years) general policy document that provides overall guidance for the future planning and development of Washington, DC. District agencies use this document as a guide to ensure that their actions reinforce the long-term goals of the city. The Comprehensive Plan was first proposed by the Mayor and adopted by the Council in 1984 and 1985, respectively. Amendments to the plan are proposed by the Mayor and approved by the Council every 4 years. The plan has been amended in 1989, 1994, and 1998. The plan includes both local and Federal elements and is the

only planning document mandated by the Home Rule Act. There are 10 local elements, which together are usually referred to as the “District of Columbia Comprehensive Plan”: General Provisions, Economic Development, Housing, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Public Facilities, Urban Design, Downtown Plan, Human Services, and Land Use.

The Ward 5 plan is one part of the goals for the Comprehensive Plan. It establishes a vision for Ward 5 over 5 years (1999–2004) and highlights eight areas of focus. For Michigan Park, North Michigan Park, and University Heights, it identifies the following as specific community concerns: excessive traffic; increased neighborhood retail and public services; the negative effects of new commercial, industrial, and other nonresidential development, plus the conversion of residential property to group houses.

A Message From Your Neighborhood Planner

As your Neighborhood Planner, my job has been to guide residents and stakeholders of Cluster 20 through the neighborhood planning process. The goal of this process was to facilitate a citizen-driven effort to identify neighborhood priorities to help guide District agencies, nonprofits, and others to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. Together, we have produced the first Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan for Cluster 20. This effort has truly been a monumental achievement!

At times, the task has not been easy. I know that, historically, areas in this Cluster have not received the level of attention residents felt they deserved. There were those of you who did not want to attend another meeting—but came anyway. There were those of you who did not believe that this process would bring about real change—but came anyway. There are those of you who have worked to create a better neighborhood without government assistance and did not believe that the time had come when

your government would assist you as a willing partner. Although we have a long way to go, we have heard you. This document is proof that your government is changing to better serve you, as well as providing a tool for you to hold us accountable.

Many of you, both long-time and new residents, have taken the initiative to create change, not waiting for government to try to fix a problem. This proactive approach has been the case in the SNAP process. You have not waited for this document to be published before taking on tough issues. For example, the two top priorities for Cluster 20 are (1) public safety and (2) recreation and parks. A group of committed residents has taken on the task of beautifying and sustaining the triangle parks at 10th and 12th Streets and Michigan Avenue and at 12th Street and South Dakota Avenue. The Spirit of Neighborhood *Action* 2001 Awards recognized the work of those neighbors for their effort in creating a safe, clean, vibrant, and livable environment. Cluster 20 residents have also been instrumental in planning the North Michigan Park and Turkey Thicket Recreation

Centers. Furthermore, residents have established beneficial partnerships with Brookland and Bunker Hill Elementary Schools, as well as with Bertie Backus Middle School.

I would like to recognize the tremendous commitment and dedication of those who participated in this planning process. They were active throughout the effort—reviewing and fine-tuning many elements of the draft SNAP. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your community to implement the actions outlined in this plan and to achieve the vision for livable, equitable, and vibrant neighborhoods throughout the District of Columbia.

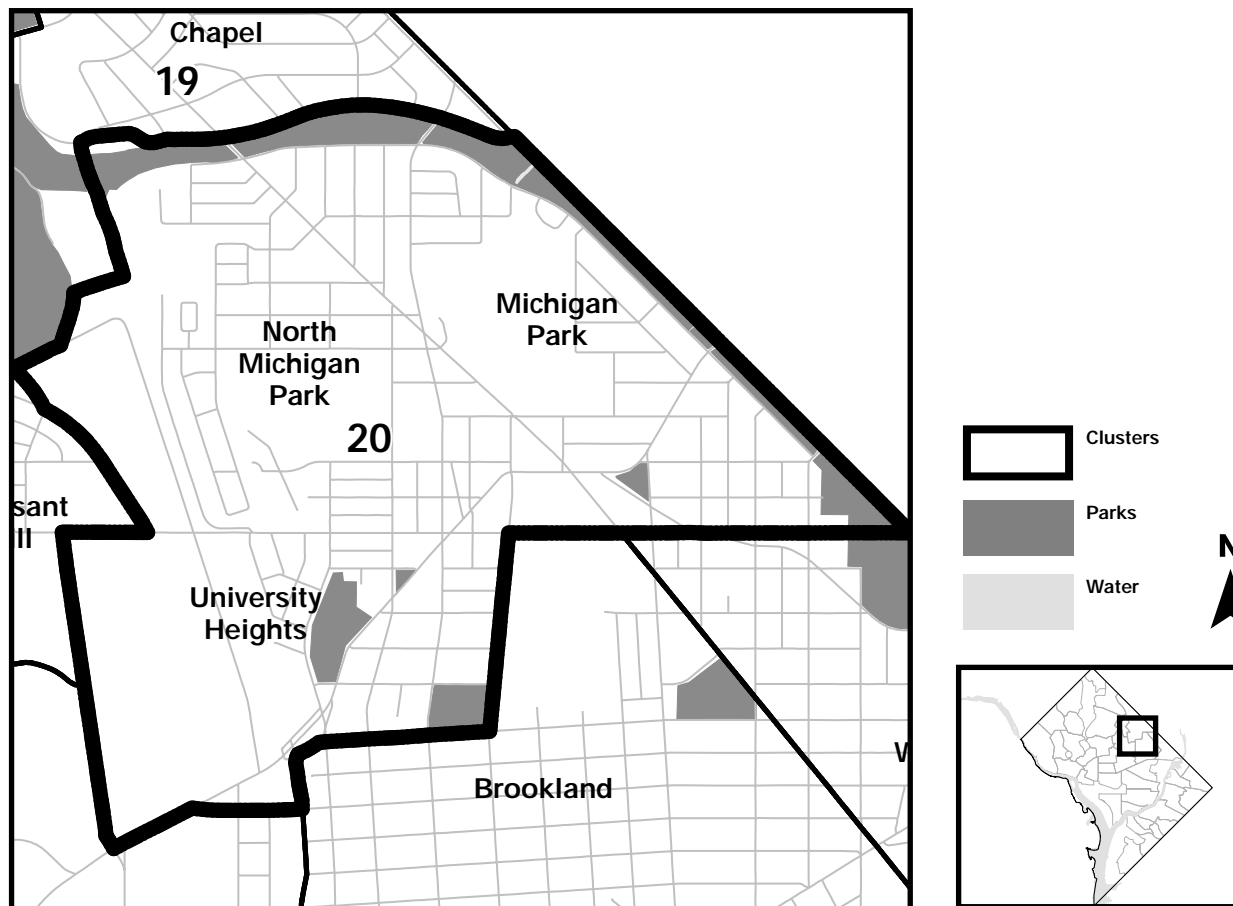
To better understand what makes your Neighborhood Cluster special, please read the following sections, which describe both the positive and negative conditions found in your communities, including demographics, recent activity in your neighborhood, and physical characteristics.

Deborah Crain
Neighborhood Planner, Cluster 20

State of the Cluster

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Cluster 20: North Michigan Park, Michigan Park, University Heights



Cluster 20 Neighborhoods

This document is the first SNAP developed for Neighborhood Cluster 20. Your Neighborhood Cluster is shown on the map to the left and includes the following neighborhoods:

- Michigan Park
- North Michigan Park
- University Heights

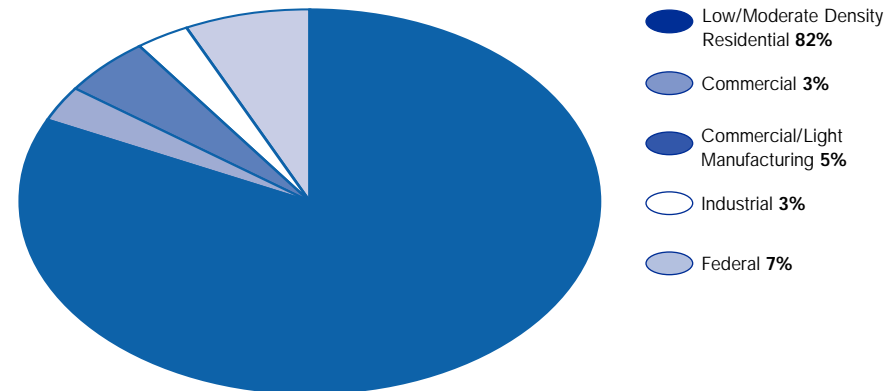
These three neighborhoods developed this SNAP with the help of your Neighborhood Planner, Deborah Crain.

Physical Characteristics and Assets

Attractive, well-maintained, semi-detached homes; row houses; and apartments define the residential area of Cluster 20. The adjacent chart shows that residential dwellings make up 82% of the land use in this community. Most residential development occurred between the two World Wars, with smaller-scale residential development occurring in the mid-1940s to late 1950s.

Small commercial service centers are located on South Dakota Avenue, on Michigan Avenue at Queens Chapel Terrace, and on 12th Street at Michigan Avenue. Those areas, which make up 3% of Cluster 20, include convenience stores, fast-food restaurants, gas stations, and other miscellaneous venues. A breakout of the types and corresponding percentages of land uses for this Cluster is shown on the adjacent pie chart.

Land Uses in Cluster 20



Source: Zoning Data contained in the Central DC GIS Database maintained by DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer, as of April 2002

Providence Hospital



National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception



Cluster 20 Neighborhood



Key assets and features of Cluster 20 include the following:

- *The solid tree-lined neighborhoods have well-maintained semi-detached homes and row houses.*
- *Providence Hospital, which was chartered in 1861 by Abraham Lincoln, is the oldest continuously operating hospital in the city.*
- *Sargent Road at the Maryland border is viewed as an important gateway into the city.*
- *Major institutions, including Children's Hospital, The Hospital for Sick Children, the U.S. Soldiers and Airmen's Home, Veterans Administration Hospital, and Washington Hospital Center, are located in the Cluster. Those institutions serve not only the rest of the city, but also the region and nation.*
- *Catholic University, which was founded in 1887, houses a complex of 10 schools, and the Metropolitan College provides programs for adults who wish to earn a degree or participate in continuing education programs.*
- *Annual family day festivals are held during the summer months in Michigan Park and North Michigan Park.*
- *A portion of the Metropolitan Branch Trail extends through the University Heights neighborhood.*
- *The North Michigan Park Recreation Center, located at 13th and Emerson Streets NE, is currently under renovation. It is slated to offer state-of-the-art recreational facilities and programming.*

Demographics

Cluster 20 has approximately 9,300 residents, representing about 1.6% of the District's population. African Americans make up the majority of residents in Cluster 20, constituting 86% of its population. Cluster 20 has a large (22%) population of residents over the age of 65, compared to the city-wide average of 12%. The Cluster's median household income (\$64,320) is significantly higher than that of the city (\$43,001). Also in this Cluster, 79% of the households are owner occupied. That percentage is well above the District's average of 41%. The adjacent chart provides some basic information on your neighborhood, such as age, race and ethnicity, and family income for 2000. It also shows data from 1990, which allows you to see how your Cluster has changed. To learn more about other demographics, you may obtain a copy of your Cluster 20 Databook by contacting the DC Office of Planning at 202-442-7600.

	Cluster 20: 1990	Cluster 20: 2000	City-wide: 2000
Population	9,718	9,317	572,059
Age			
Under 18 Years	16%	19%	20%
Between 18 and 65 Years	67%	59%	68%
Over 65 Years	17%	22%	12%
Race and Ethnicity			
African American	84%	86%	60%
White	14%	10%	31%
Hispanic ¹	2%	2%	8%
Income			
Median Household Income ²	\$42,765	\$64,320 ³	\$43,001 ³
Education			
High School Graduates	79%	Data not yet available	73%
College Graduates	33%	Data not yet available	33%
Housing			
Occupied Housing Units	3,786 units	3,766 units	248,338 units
Percentage of Housing Units Owner Occupied	79%	79%	41%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 data.

1. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

2. Median income is the income level at which half of the households earn more and half earn less. It is literally the income that is in the middle.

3. Claritas, Inc., 1998 data.

Recent Neighborhood Activity

Over the past few years, major activity in this Cluster has included public projects, such as road and infrastructure improvements. Highlights of those projects, as well as future investments, are listed below:

- *The \$6.7 million renovation of the North Michigan Park Recreation Center is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2002.*
- *Completed roadway reconstruction projects, include Queens Chapel Road from Hamlin to Irving Streets, Delafield Street from 8th Street to South Dakota Avenue, Michigan Avenue from Varum Street to Eastern Avenue, Eastern Avenue from Michigan Avenue to Sargent Road, and Irving Street from 18th Street to Queens Chapel Road.*

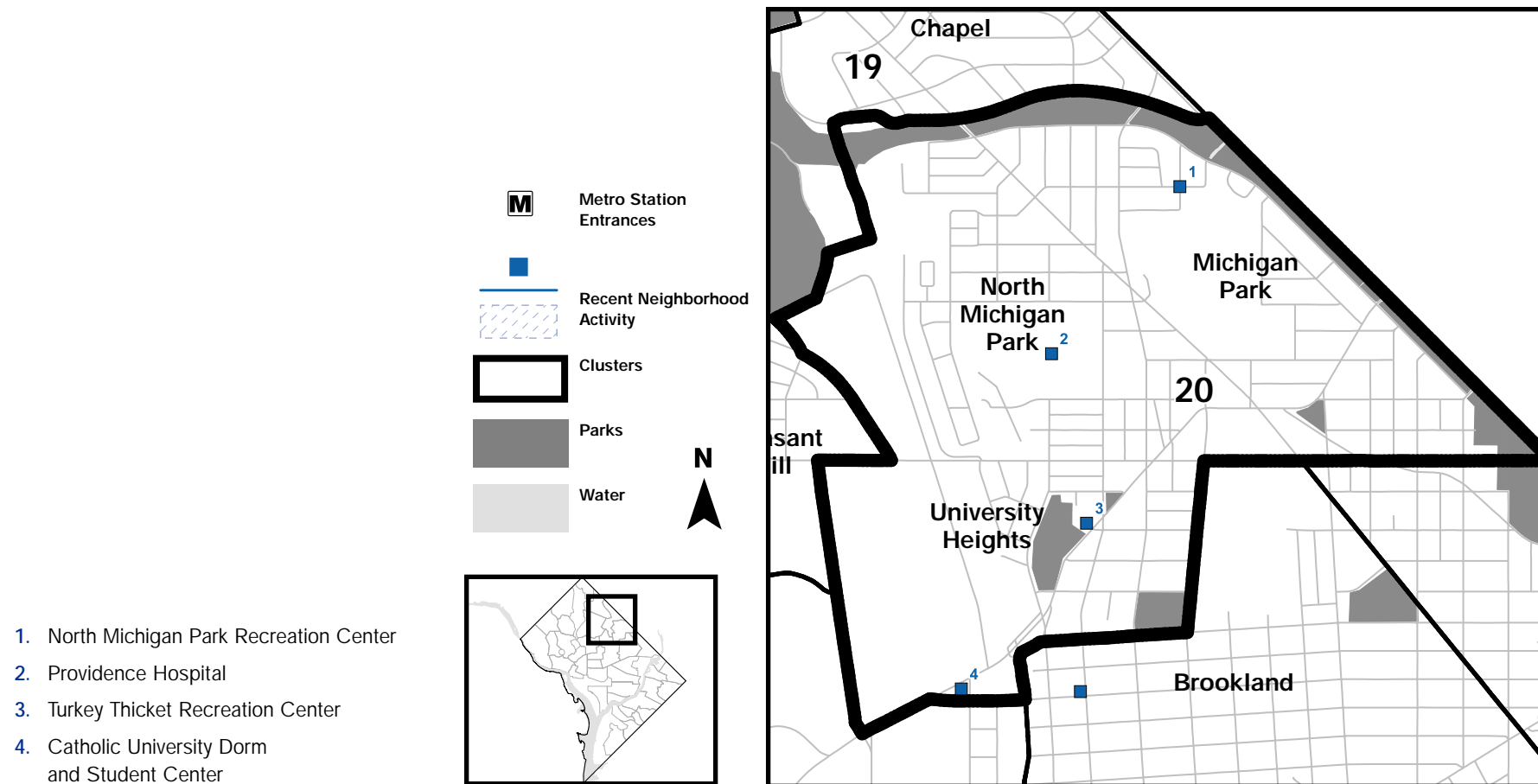
- *Catholic University has built additional on-campus dormitories; currently a student center is under construction.*
- *Trinity College is constructing a state-of-the-art recreation field.*

The Recent Neighborhood Activity map on the following page depicts the key activities in your Cluster.

Pope John Paul II Cultural Center



Recent Neighborhood Activity in Cluster 20



Citizen-Driven Process

The commitment of Neighborhood *Action* is to engage citizens in the governance of their city and to align government priorities with citizens' priorities. Following the tradition of the Citizen Summit, the Neighborhood Planning Initiative has citizen engagement at the core of its mission. As such, the process for developing your SNAP was built around a four-phase, citizen-driven process: (1) Start Up, (2) Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients, (3) Action Planning, and (4) Validation.

The hard work began in phase two, when a Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients Workshop was held in each Neighborhood Cluster between January and June 2001. At this workshop, citizens were asked to create a list of essential ingredients for their Cluster. Essential ingredients are characteristics vital to making a neighborhood a place where people and families can live and thrive.

Your Cluster identified and ranked 11 essential ingredients as vital for a livable community:

1. Public Safety
2. Recreation and Parks
3. Schools
4. Clean and Well-Maintained Streets
5. Beautification
6. Traffic and Mobility
7. Housing
8. Planning and Community Development
9. Neighborhood Serving Business
10. Government Accountability and Communication
11. Community Building

Cluster Priorities

Participants were then asked to identify three to four priority essential ingredients that would be the focus of additional action planning. For FY2002 and 2003, they agreed on the following priorities:

- Public Safety
- Recreation and Parks
- Schools

Next, residents were invited to participate in a series of Action Planning meetings to identify specific actions for addressing their priorities. During this extensive exercise, participants were challenged to think strategically about the necessary steps and the specific locations to begin addressing the priorities. With the detailed priorities, objectives, actions, and locations, the SNAP served as a tool for District agencies in preparing their FY2003 budgets.

Developing Your SNAP

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How We Involved You

Phase I: Start Up

- Conducted informal consultations with neighborhood leaders to discuss the concept of the SNAP and develop key contacts. Those consultations were held from March 2001 to June 2001.
- Recruited and formed a Cluster Steering Committee to plan and promote the Neighborhood Cluster Visioning Workshop. A Cluster Steering Committee Meeting was held on June 7, 2001, and was followed by ongoing consultation in preparation for the workshop.

Phase II: Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients

- Convened a combined Visioning Workshop for Clusters 20 and 22 on June 14, 2001, at Brookland Elementary School to identify the essential ingredients for a healthy neighborhood and to establish priorities.

Phase III: Action Planning

- Held three Action Planning Meetings, using the top three essential ingredients, to develop preliminary action plans.

Phase IV: Validation

- Convened a Ward 5 Validation Meeting on July 31, 2001, to review and validate the draft plan.

Community Outreach

- Announced the Steering Committee Meetings, the Neighborhood Cluster Workshop, the Action Planning Work Sessions, and other meetings using a variety of outreach methods. Flyers were posted in key neighborhood locations. Workshop schedules were announced at Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) and at citizen and civic association meetings, and they were sent through e-mail. Notices were also sent to Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners and to Council Member Orange's office.
- More than 120 citizens participated in the planning process.

District agencies then reviewed the neighborhood priorities as they reviewed their FY2002 budget and developed their proposed FY2003 budget. Beginning in October 2001, more than 40 agencies reviewed recommended actions and developed responses to address neighborhood priorities. Although resources are limited, agencies used neighborhood priorities as one of the inputs to help define what they should do next year, how they should be doing it, and where they should begin.

Further, when District agencies were asked to reduce their FY2003 budgets because of funding shortfalls, the Mayor and his administration emphasized that existing commitments to SNAP priorities remain untouched. Last, in a review of your SNAP and others across the city, additional funding was provided to certain agencies that needed more assistance to address neighborhood

priorities. For example, more funding was dedicated to city-wide issues such as the following:

- *Install an additional 600 litter cans across the city.*
- *Hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward.*
- *Hire an additional staff person who will be under the Clean City Administrator and who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness.*
- *Hire additional Historic Preservation staff members to review projects in historic areas, and more.*

These and other items were included in Mayor Williams' draft FY2003 budget that was submitted to the Council of the District of Columbia to consider as it reviewed and revised the budget. Now that the Council has approved the final FY2003 budget, the commitments to your neighborhoods are firm.

Agency Commitment Highlights

In Cluster 20, some of the key actions that concerned citizens the most received the following agency commitments:

Increase Public Safety in Neighborhoods

- *To boost staffing levels, the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) has committed to doubling the number of Volunteer Reserve personnel. As the recruits are hired and sent to the district, the number of officers assigned to each Police Service Area (PSA) will increase.*
- *PSA Officers will provide direct patrol in known hot spots through foot patrols and surveillance during the high crime hours. PSA Officers will more strictly enforce traffic regulations in areas that have been posted with signs.*
- *The Narcotics Strike Force and District Vice Units will target specific hot spots to reduce and eliminate open-air markets and will work with District Detectives to focus on violent drug traffickers through long-term investigations.*
- *The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is currently conducting an inventory of all traffic control signs to determine which ones need to be replaced and where new signs need to be installed. DDOT will work with the MPD to determine enforcement strategies.*
- *DDOT is currently surveying sidewalk pavement conditions in coordination with the Neighborhood Services Coordinator. Any unsafe conditions will be repaired immediately.*
- *DDOT will formulate neighborhood transportation plans in this Cluster to address traffic-calming needs and to improve traffic flow, including removing abandoned automobiles.*
- *The Department of Public Works (DPW) has opened an additional impound lot, and new tow cranes have been ordered, which will be deployed in FY2002. Inspectors will continue to tag abandoned vehicles for towing.*

Increase Recreational Opportunities in Neighborhoods

- *The Department of Recreation and Parks (DPR) will increase the number of staff members, number of programs, and amount of maintenance at recreation centers. This year, \$4 million was allocated for 30 new programs and 30 new maintenance staff members.*
- *DPR's Urban Park Rangers are working with MPD to improve public safety at recreation sites.*
- *DPR has recently hired an Associate Director for Programs to assess current program offerings and to develop partnerships with nonprofits, the community, and schools to develop future programs. Those partnerships will increase opportunities available to senior citizens and children.*

- *DPR is conducting an inventory of facilities to assist with development of a master plan over the next year. The master plan will include an assessment of programs and parks. New projects will be considered as this plan takes shape.*
- *In Ward 5, DPR is currently building two major recreation centers: Turkey Thicket and North Michigan Park. Field and lighting renovations have also been completed in the area. DPR will continue to refurbish parks and recreation centers.*

Improve the Quality of Education by Enhancing the School Curriculum and Physical Environment

- *The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) has begun to explore options for providing expanded vocational opportunities for children at schools that do not have such offerings. DCPS is looking at shared-time programs and at the possibility of transporting students to schools with existing programs.*
- *DCPS is implementing a 3-year business plan that is designed to improve and enhance District schools both academically and structurally.*

The next section is the centerpiece of the SNAP: the Action Plan. Specifically, it describes how District and non-District agencies are responding to citizens' priorities in FY2002, FY2003, and beyond.

Understanding the Plan

The Cluster 20 Action Plan is where citizen-driven priorities are described in detail. The priorities specific to Cluster 20 include the following:

- Public Safety
- Recreation and Parks
- Schools

This section describes both District commitments and key community-led actions. The data are organized by the priorities described above. Each priority is further described by objectives, which articulate specific problems or needs that must be addressed in order to accomplish the priority. For example, if a Cluster's priority is Public Safety, objectives may be to "develop strategies to reduce drug activity" and to "improve relations between police and area residents." Each objective then has a specific Action Plan that includes Proposed Action, Responsible Agencies, Budget Commitment, and Time Frame for Implementation.

As you read through the Action Plan, you will notice that many of the recommended actions list commitments from multiple agencies. It is often the case in government that several agencies with specific expertise are required to work together to fully address any one issue. In those cases, the first agency listed is the lead agency, or agency that has primary responsibility for implementing or coordinating implementation. The additional agencies listed will play a supporting role to the lead agency. An agency commitment may range from providing background information or performing technical analysis on a specific project, to funding and managing a series of activities on a city-wide initiative.

The Action Plan also acknowledges the fact that government cannot address those priority issues alone. In many instances, the agencies will need the help of the business and institutional community, nonprofits, civic and citizen organizations, and

individual citizens to create sustainable community improvement. During the SNAP process, many of the priorities identified by your neighborhood included actions that require community or private-sector leadership and participation or both. The following Action Plan includes those community-led actions, and it begins the process of engaging residents and other organized groups to work together with government to address local issues.

The following pages provide the detailed District Agency commitments and timelines to begin addressing some of your top Cluster priorities.

Because partner names are abbreviated in this Action Plan, please refer to Appendix B for a list with the complete name of each partner.

The Action Plan

4

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1:

Public Safety

Public safety emerged as the top concern in Ward 5. Residents felt that many of the positive activities in their community will remain in jeopardy until the issue of public safety is addressed. Residents of Cluster 20 went on to identify a variety of safety issues, such as the poor street and alley lighting, the prevalence drug activity, and the need for more police visibility in the neighborhood. Actions recommended by residents included increasing MPD staffing, eradicating drug activities, establishing drug-free zones, increasing the number of Partnerships for Problem Solving, and increasing police foot and bike patrols.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Better use MPD resources.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2226	Increase police presence in known hot spots through foot patrols and surveillance, with a coordinated strategy to resolve illegal activity.	Cluster-wide, PSA 501 around the McDonald's, and 11th Street and South Dakota Avenue NE	MPD	9010	The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) has conducted a workload analysis to determine the proper deployment of police resources city-wide in order to achieve a faster response time to calls for service and a better distribution of time available for problem solving. Personnel deployment decisions will be made in FY2002; however, some increases will not occur until additional sworn members are hired. To boost staffing levels, the Chief of MPD has also committed to doubling the number of Volunteer Reserve personnel who are uniformed; equipped with the ASP and OC spray; and authorized to make arrests, write tickets, and direct traffic. By the end of 2002, 600 reservists will be recruited. As the recruits are hired and sent to the district, the number of officers assigned to each PSA will increase.	FY2002
303	Enforce regulations and signage regarding truck route restrictions through residential areas.	North Michigan Park, specifically Taylor Street	MPD	7722	Enhanced traffic enforcement will be implemented by Police Service Area (PSA) Officers in the area, which has already been posted with signs.	FY2002
			DDOT	7721	The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is currently conducting an inventory of all traffic control signs to determine which ones need to be replaced and where new signs need to be installed. DDOT will work with MPD to determine enforcement strategies.	FY2003
2227	Increase police presence in known hot spots through foot patrols and surveillance, with a coordinated strategy to resolve illegal activity.	4900 10th Street NE, plus alleys behind Crittenden and Decatur Streets NE	MPD	9011	PSA Officers will provide direct patrol to the affected area during the high crime hours. The Focus Mission Team will conduct surveillance during Q3 of FY2002.	FY2002

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Public Safety**

OBJECTIVE 2: Eliminate drug activity and prostitution in the neighborhood.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2228	Develop a new strategy using a variety of police techniques (i.e., covert surveillance, cameras, patrols).	Corner of 14th and Downing NE	MPD	9012	The Narcotics Strike Force and District Focused Mission Teams will conduct targeting to address and reduce open-air markets. They will also work with Major Narcotics to focus on violent drug traffickers through long-term investigations.	Ongoing

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1:

Public Safety

OBJECTIVE 3:

Improve community and police relations.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2229	Provide citizens with better access to crime statistics that relate to personal crimes.	Cluster-wide	MPD	9013	The website <www.crimereports.com> provides crime statistics to citizens who request to be put on the e-mail list. For more information, go to the website <mpdc.dc.gov>. PSA Lieutenants also regularly bring crime statistics to the monthly PSA meetings. From Q1 of 2002, District 5's PSA meetings have been more widely publicized.	FY2002
2230	Increase the number of PSAs involved in Partnerships for Problem Solving.	Cluster-wide	MPD	9014	District 5 will more widely publicize PSA meetings and will do additional outreach. PSA team members will regularly share information about upcoming PSA meetings when out in the community.	FY2002

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Public Safety**

OBJECTIVE 4: Complete traffic-calming survey and remove abandoned cars.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2231	Complete a survey of speeding traffic on Taylor street, make recommendations for slowing traffic, and implement solutions.	Taylor Street	MPD	9015	District 5 will implement this action item as suggested. Operations Command will survey the site for possible photo-radar enforcement and traditional radar enforcement (SMART machine).	FY2002
			DDOT	9980	DDOT will begin formulating neighborhood transportation plans to include this area.	FY2003
297	Improve the DPW's capacity to regulate and to promptly remove abandoned automobiles.	Throughout Cluster 20 and Ward 5	DPW	8199	The Department of Public Works (DPW) has opened an additional impound lot, and new tow cranes have been ordered, which will be deployed in FY2002. Inspectors will continue to tag abandoned vehicles for towing.	FY2002

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2:

Recreation

The second priority for Cluster 20 is recreation and parks. Residents said that there was a great need for increased recreation services for youths, as well as for senior citizens. Participants stressed the need for partnerships among the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), the other agencies, and the private sector to increase access to recreational options. Residents stated that recreation services should be free to residents of the District of Columbia, especially senior citizens. Community members would also like to see more open space, as well as additional recreational parks.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Build new or improve existing recreation facilities.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2232	Build Turkey Thicket Field House and Pool, including a track, gym, and weight room.	Michigan Park	DDOT	9016	North Michigan Park Recreation Center is under construction. Turkey Thicket is in line for construction. Other centers are scheduled for renovation or extensive rehabilitation.	FY2002
2233	Build a state-of-the-art recreation and sports center that will operate at minimal expense to DC citizens and will be free to senior citizens.	Cluster-wide	DPR	9018	DPR is currently conducting an inventory of facilities and is developing a master plan, which will include an assessment of programs and parks. New projects will be considered as this plan takes shape.	FY2002
2234	Begin constructing the North Michigan Park Recreation Center, including replacing the existing street lighting.	North Michigan Park	DPR	9019	DPR has begun construction on North Michigan Park. It should be completed during Q1 of FY2003. If you have questions, please call the Capital Projects Division at 202-673-7665	FY2003
2235	Increase the number of recreational parks.	Cluster-wide	DPR	9020	Currently, DPR is building two major recreation centers in Ward 5: Turkey Thicket and North Michigan Park. Field and lighting renovations have also been completed in the area (Langdon Park, Fort Lincoln). DPR will continue to refurbish parks and recreation centers but is not anticipating purchasing any additional property. Washington has more park space per person than any city on the East Coast. Additional efforts will be made to improve the quality of those parks.	Ongoing

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Recreation**

OBJECTIVE 2: Coordinate and implement diversified recreational programming through partnerships.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2238	Increase the number of staff members, the number of programs, and the amount of maintenance at recreation centers.	Cluster-wide	DPR	9024	DPR is working hard to accomplish this objective. This year, \$4 million was allocated for 30 new programs and 30 new maintenance staff members.	FY2002
305	Provide additional recreational opportunities for senior citizens and children.	Cluster-wide	DPR	7725	DPR is developing new partnerships with nonprofits to provide services in recreation centers city-wide. Those partnerships will increase opportunities available to senior citizens and children. Examples include City Lights (for adjudicated youth) and Barney Senior Services (for senior citizens). Both of those programs have already started. City Lights began serving youths on October 15, 2001. Barney has an ongoing grant from the DC Office of Aging (DCOA) to provide for senior citizens. Currently, no other programs are being planned for these populations in this Cluster.	FY2002
			Community	7726	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and the actions of individuals. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	TBD
2239	Develop a partnership with schools to provide increased programming and use of school facilities for recreational activities.	Taft School	DCPS	9025	DCPS will support DPR in program creation for the Taft Recreation Center, which is under construction.	FY2002
			DPR	9026	DPR has hired a new Associate Director for Programs. This person will assess the current situation by reading these plans and by visiting sites and will work with the community (and schools) to develop future programs.	FY2002
2240	Increase police presence at recreation centers to provide additional public safety.	Cluster-wide	MPD	9028	Although it is not MPD's responsibility to provide staff members at the recreation centers, District 5 stands ready to partner with DPR and to provide increased presence at events where a police presence is determined necessary.	Ongoing
			DPR	9027	DPR's Urban Park Rangers are working with MPD to coordinate this effort.	Ongoing

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Recreation**

OBJECTIVE 2: Coordinate and implement diversified recreational programming through partnerships.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2241	Coordinate planning so that developing industrial areas do not negatively affect the surrounding community and open space.	Cluster-wide	DPR	9029	DPR's new master plan will help determine facility and program needs, as well as examine environmental realities such as industry. DPR will use the analysis to plan carefully.	FY2002
2242	Develop recreational programs in the vicinity of Faith United Church of Christ for children of all ages. Perhaps develop additional programs in conjunction with area churches.	North Michigan Park	DPR	9030	DPR has hired a new Associate Director for Programs. This person will assess the current situation by reading these plans and by visiting sites and will work with the community (and schools) to develop future programs.	FY2002
304	Develop a partnership between DPR and DCPS, and increase the hours at the activities to provide increased recreational and educational programming.	Cluster-wide, PSA 501 around the McDonald's, and 11th Street and South Dakota Avenue NE	DCPS	8479	DPR should be designated as the lead agency for this action. The facility under development is the Taft Recreation Center. DCPS will support DPR in the design of program deliverables in the new center. DCPS will also hold programs during out-of-school time for special populations within the Taft School facility, which is across the street from the designated recreation center.	FY2003
			DPR	7723	A new facility is currently under construction at North Michigan Park, two blocks from 11th Street and South Dakota Ave NE. Once the center is built, there will be increased hours to suit recreational and educational programming needs. With respect to concerns about size of the facility, the footprint of the new facility is twice the size of the former, so capacity will be doubled. In addition, 35 new recreation specialists are being hired to work throughout the District; they will also add new energy to the program and to the education side of recreation.	FY2002
			Community	7724	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and the actions of individuals. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	TBD

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3:

Schools

Improving schools was the third priority for Cluster 20. Workshop participants saw the need for improved academic and vocational programs and for increased exposure to art and culture for all grade levels. Citizens would also like to see school buildings used for after-school activities for youths and adults, as well as for community-based social programs. Finally, residents highlighted the need for new school buildings and the renovation of some existing school buildings that are currently vacant.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Improve schools.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2243	Plan for smaller neighborhood schools that create a sense of community and accountability.	Cluster-wide	DCPS	9005	DCPS's new Facilities Master Plan recommends small neighborhood schools. The plan should be completed during Q2 of FY2002.	FY2002
306	Identify a T-9 (Transforming Schools Initiative) school in this area in 2003.	Cluster-wide	DCPS	7727	Because the next cohort of transformation schools has not been selected, DCPS cannot provide a start date for this action. Schools are selected on the basis of a variety of factors, the most essential one being academic achievement. Given that a limited number of schools can be transformed at once and that the focus of this initiative is on low-performing schools, it may not be possible for a school from this Cluster to be chosen.	Out years
2247	Devise a plan for better use of school buildings, such as extended after-school hours, more varied community use, and space to locate government services within the community.	Taft School	DCPS	9032	Taft is not scheduled for school modernization at this time. During the planning process, issues such as extended after-school hours, more varied community use, and space to locate government services within the community should be further discussed. Taft is slated to serve as swing space for schools undergoing modernization.	Out years

Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3:

Schools

OBJECTIVE 2:

Provide better school programs.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2244	Improve and enhance public schools to attract all neighborhood children and to arm them with the tools they need to compete and survive in today's and tomorrow's economy.	Cluster-wide	DCPS	9006	This objective is essentially the goal of DCPS's new 3-year business plan. All activities conducted by the school system during the next 3 years will be focused on that goal.	Ongoing
2245	Require all students and teachers to wear uniforms.	Cluster-wide	DCPS	9007	Individual school principals determine school uniform requirements.	Ongoing
			Community	9008	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and the actions of individuals. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	TBD
2246	Provide interested students training in vocations such as carpentry, construction, daycare, cosmetology, computer repair, and auto repair.	Cluster-wide	DCPS	9031	DCPS has begun to explore options for providing expanded vocational opportunities to children at schools that do not offer such programs. It is looking at shared-time programs and at the possibility of transporting students to schools with existing programs. However, it is too early in the process to commit to a start date. Interested community members should contact the Office of Career and Technical Education to voice their preferences (202-442-5062)	Ongoing

Overview

While this Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan outlines and begins to address the key priorities identified by the neighborhoods in your Neighborhood Cluster, several other neighborhood initiatives are playing a major role in improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Those initiatives include the following:

Neighborhood Service Initiative (NSI)

The Neighborhood Service Initiative strives to find permanent solutions—not just quick fixes—for persistent problems in every Ward. To this end, the NSI, in partnership with residents and 13 District agencies, has identified persistent problem areas (PPAs) in the community. In most cases, when the Metropolitan Police Department has an active Police Service Area Plan (PSA Plan) or a Capital Community Plan, a PPA work plan was developed. The identified areas have recurring problems that

need the cooperation and coordination of many government agencies to ensure that they become clean, safe, and healthy neighborhoods. Through a core team approach, 13 government agency representatives come together weekly in each Ward to develop and implement work plans in an effort to mobilize, reclaim, revitalize, and sustain abatement of the problems in PPAs. *To learn more about this initiative, please contact Todd Douglas, Neighborhood Service Coordinator, at 202-576-8100.*

Transforming Schools Initiative (T-9)

In FY2001, DCPS selected nine schools to reconstitute and transform, including facilities, curriculum, and staffing. In FY2002, another set will be selected, as well as in FY2003. Several existing schools will serve as a pilot for the new “neighborhood places” model of coordinated, neighborhood-based social services being implemented by the District agencies. The T-9 schools in

Ward 5 are the Noyes Elementary School, which is located at 2725 10th Street NE, and the Phelps Senior High School, which is located at 704 26th Street NE. *Please contact Helen Flag at 202-442-5023 to learn more about this initiative.*

Home Again: Renovating Our City's Abandoned Properties

This initiative will promote the development of the District's vacant and abandoned properties by gaining site control of the properties and by selling them to developers, who will renovate them into new homes. The initiative will begin by gaining site control in five neighborhoods: Columbia Heights, Ivy City/Trinidad, Near Northeast, Rosedale, and Shaw. Then it will expand throughout the city. The initiative's goal is to provide at least 30% of the homes to low-income families. *Please contact Neal Drobenare at 202-727-3899 to learn more about this initiative.*

Other Neighborhood Initiatives

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Partnership for Problem Solving

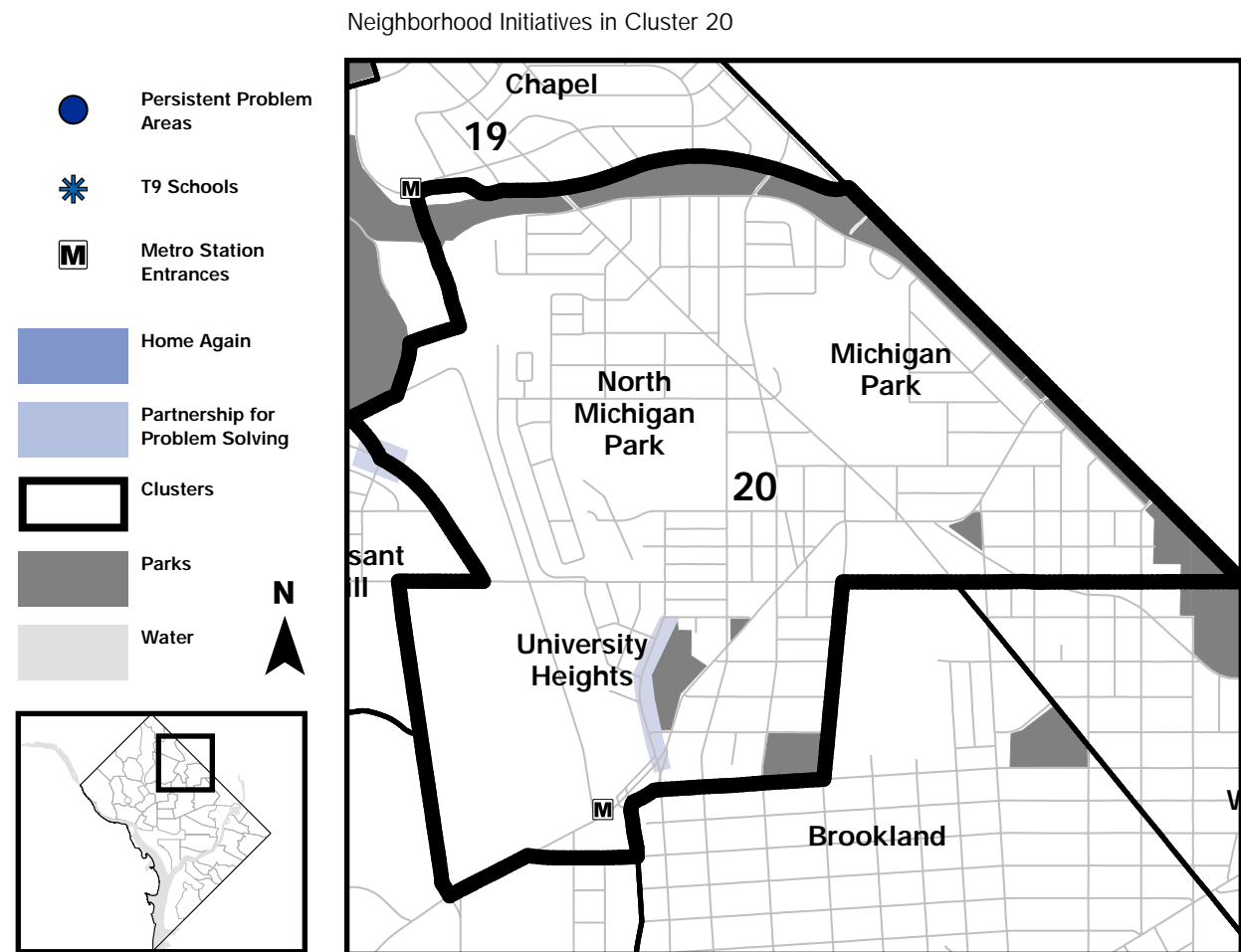
Police Lieutenants are working in partnership with the community and other stakeholders to address local public safety problems. They are developing plans specific to Police Service Areas (the geographic units that the police have implemented in the city) to facilitate the collaborative problem-solving process and to address public-safety issues. Strategies that have been developed focus on addressing offenders, victims, and locations and consist of three types of approaches: focused law enforcement, neighborhood partnership, and systemic prevention. *Please contact Ann Russell at 202-727-1585 to learn more about this initiative.*

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD is a land use strategy to accommodate new growth, strengthen neighborhoods, and expand choices and opportunities. TOD capitalizes on bus and rail assets to stimulate and support vibrant, compact, diverse, and accessible neighborhood centers within walking distance of transit. TOD is a strategy that allows for a rich mix of uses—residential, retail, and work places—at densities that are appropriate for the neighborhood. *Please contact Karina Ricks at 202-442-7607 to learn more about this initiative.*

In many instances, the issues addressed in the SNAPs directly link with other neighborhood initiatives, thus creating synergy in areas that will receive substantial public and private resources.

The Neighborhood Initiatives map on the following page depicts the above-mentioned initiatives that are located in your Cluster.



Your SNAP is a living document, not just a plan collecting dust on a shelf. In fact, a number of activities are currently under way to ensure that the priorities highlighted in this document are addressed. The following are examples:

Progress Updates to Your SNAP

The Office of Neighborhood *Action* is monitoring the status of projects with District agencies. A status update meeting will be held in each Ward twice a year to share with residents the progress of the commitments.

Implementation of Citizen-Driven Actions

The success of this plan depends on a strong partnership among District agencies, other agencies, businesses, community development corporations, the faith community, and you. To find community partners to help implement citizen actions, the Office of Neighborhood *Action* will be making contacts in your Cluster. You are strongly encouraged to take the initiative, to pull people or groups together, and to champion one of these actions. Please contact the Office of Neighborhood *Action* (at 202-727-2822) to learn where you might be able to help.

Role of Your Neighborhood Planner

Your Neighborhood Planner, Deborah Crain, will be responsible for implementing several actions in this Ward. During this coming year, she will continue to work with DDOT to develop a traffic study for Ward 5 and to assist DPR in identifying additional community partners to provide space for recreation programs.

What Happens
Now

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The Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans were built heavily on past and present plans and documents that have been developed by your neighborhood and the city. For your reference, we have listed a number of relevant plans and documents for your area. Many of these plans are accessible on the Neighborhood *Action* website at <www.neighborhoodaction.dc.gov> or at your local library.

Reference Materials

Plan:	Date Completed:	Plan Development Led by:
Ward 5 Plan	1998	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
City-Wide Comprehensive Plan	1998	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
DC Municipal Regulations Planning and Development Ward 5	1995	DC Office of Documents and Administrative Issuances
A Strategic Economic Development Plan	1994	DC Government, Office of Economic Development
Cluster 20 Databook	Winter 2001	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
Cluster 20 Visioning Workshop Summary Report	Summer 2001	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
Cluster 20 FY2003 Citizen Budget Guides and Worksheets	March 18, 2002	DC Government
Affordable Housing Briefing Document	October 6, 2001	DC Government

Action Plan Partner Abbreviations

ABRA	Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration	DMCYF	Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families, and Elders	NSO	Neighborhood Stabilization Officer
CAH	Commission on Arts and Humanities	DMH	Department of Mental Health	NTHP	National Trust for Historic Preservation
CBO	Community-Based Organization	DMPED	Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development	OCA	Office of the City Administrator
CDC	Community Development Corporation	DMPSJ	Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice	OCC	Office of Corporation Counsel
CFSA	Child and Family Services Administration	DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles	OSCC	Office of the Clean City Coordinator
DBFI	Department of Banking and Financial Institutions	DMO	Deputy Mayor of Operations	OCFO	Office of the Chief Financial Officer
DCFD	DC Fire Department	DOC	Department of Corrections	OCP	Office of Contracting and Procurement
DCHA	DC Housing Administration	DOES	Department of Employment Services	OCTO	Office of the Chief Technology Officer
DCHFA	DC Housing Finance Authority	DOH	Department of Health	OLBD	Office of Local Business Development
DCMC	DC Marketing Center	DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation	OP	Office of Planning
DCOA	DC Office of Aging	DPW	Department of Public Works	OPM	Office of Property Management
DCOP	DC Office of Personnel	EMA	Emergency Management Agency	OTR	Office of Tax and Revenue
DCPL	DC Public Libraries	EOM	Executive Office of the Mayor	OZ	Office of Zoning
DCPS	DC Public Schools	FEMS	Fire and Emergency Medical Services	PSA	Police Service Area
DCRA	Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	FHA	Federal Housing Administration	TCC	Taxi Cab Commission
DDOT	District Department of Transportation	IGO	Inspector General's Office	UDC	University of the District of Columbia
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development	MPD	Metropolitan Police Department	WASA	DC Water and Sewer Authority
DHS	Department of Human Services	NCRC	National Capital Revitalization Corporation	WCCA	Washington Convention Center Authority
DISR	Department of Insurance and Securities Regulation	NPS	National Park Service	WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
		NSC	Neighborhood Service Coordinator	ZAC	Zoning Advisory Committee
		NSI	Neighborhood Service Initiative	ZC	Zoning Commission

Your District Representatives

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Jim Graham, Ward 1

Jack Evans, Chair Pro Tempore / Ward 2

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Kathleen Patterson, Ward 3

Adrian Fenty, Ward 4

Rhonda Chappelle, Chair, ANC 5B

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Sharon Ambrose, Ward 6

James D. Berry Jr., Chair, ANC 5C

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